United Nations A/54/686

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 December 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 150 and 172

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Jan Piotr **Jaremczuk** (Poland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. Subsequently, at its 44th plenary meeting, on 1 November 1999, the General Assembly decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/54/234), to include the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

3. The Fifth Committee considered the items at its 47th and 49th meetings, on 15 and 21 December 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the items are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/54/SR.47 and 49).

4. For its consideration of the items, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (A/53/454/Add.1, A/54/455 and A/54/633) and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/54/490 and A/54/647).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.33

5. At the 49th meeting, on 21 December, the representative of the Republic of Korea and coordinator of informal consultations on items 150 and 172 introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" (A/C.5/54/L.33), which had been submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.33 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 1181 (1998) of 13 July 1998, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone, 1260 (1999) of 20 August 1999, by which the Council authorized the provisional expansion of the Observer Mission, and 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for an initial period of six months,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations, and recognizing that the costs of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone are also to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter,

Recalling its previous decision concerning the Observer Mission, and recognizing that, with regard to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

[1] A/53/454/Add.1, A/54/455 and A/54/633.

[2] A/54/490 and A/54/647.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone as at 30 November 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 1.2 million United States dollars, representing 8 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 37 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone in full and on time;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

8. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the experiences gained on the use of resident auditors in peacekeeping missions and the implications of the implementation of the recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services referred to in paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

10. *Notes* that a technical assessment mission will be undertaken to assess the needs relating to mine clearance, and requests that the necessary funding for operational demining needs be made available for these activities;

[3] A/54/647.

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

13. *Decides* to continue to use the Special Account established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/29 for the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone, for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone beginning 22 October 1999;

14. *Also decides* to appropriate the amount of 200 million dollars gross (197,765,100 dollars net) for the maintenance and provisional expansion of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the establishment and maintenance of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of the amount of 52,971,600 dollars gross (52,687,600 dollars net) previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994 on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of peacekeeping operations;

15. *Further decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 161,666,667 dollars gross (159,860,123 dollars net) for the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 1999 to 21 April 2000 in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, 54/__, 54/__ and 54/__ of __ December 1999,* and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/__ of __ December 1999;**

16. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,806,544 dollars approved for the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 1999 to 21 April 2000;

17. *Also decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 38,333,333 dollars gross (37,904,977 dollars net) among Member States for the maintenance of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 22 April to 30 June 2000 at a monthly rate of 16,666,667 dollars gross (16,480,425 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A and 54/__,** subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 21 April 2000;

18. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated

* Decisions to be adopted on agenda item 151.

** Resolution to be adopted on agenda item 125.

staff assessment income of 428,356 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 22 April to 30 June 2000;

19. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

21. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fourth session the agenda items entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone" and "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".